# (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

## (19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



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## (43) International Publication Date 9 June 2005 (09.06.2005)

### PCT

## (10) International Publication Number WO 2005/052162 A1

- C12N 15/54, (51) International Patent Classification7: 15/29, 15/82, 5/10, A01H 5/00, 5/10, C12P 7/64
- (21) International Application Number:

PCT/CA2004/002021

(22) International Filing Date:

24 November 2004 (24.11.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/524,645

25 November 2003 (25.11.2003) US

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- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,

MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

#### Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)
- of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

#### Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: FATTY ACID ELONGASE (FAE) GENES AND THEIR UTILITY IN INCREASING ERUCIC ACID AND OTHER VERY LONG-CHAIN FATTY ACID PROPORTIONS IN SERIO OF VERY LONG-CHAIN FATTY ACID PROPORTIONS IN SEED OIL.

(57) Abstract: This invention relates to seeds of plant, plants themselves and cells of such plants which comprise a heterologous gene coding for a plant (such as nasturtium (Tropaeolum majus) or Crambe abyssinica) fatty acid elongase (FAE) gene or allelic variant thereof, or combinations of one or both of these FAE genes with an Arabidopsis fatty acid elongase I (FAEI) gene, in co-transformation, in reading frame alignment with a promoter capable of increasing expression of said gene(s), when said transformed plant cell is in a seed, said plant cell or seed being capable of producing an increase in proportion of a very long chain monounsaturated or saturated fatty acids when compared with the proportions of said fatty acids in a control plant cell or seed lacking said heterologous FAE gene or genes. The invention also relates to combinations of these fatty acid elongase genes by traditional crossing, sufficient to increase the proportion of very long chain monounsaturated or saturated fatty acids in the seed oil of the progeny compared to the proportion of said fatty acids in either of the parental lines.

